

Policy 3.3.1 Wastewater Management — Goals, Policies and Action Statements

Generation

Goal 3.3A. Ensure that the quantity and composition of wastewater generated in the City does not exceed the capabilities of the wastewater collection system and Water Pollution Control Plant.

Policy 3.3A.1. Water Pollution Control Plant improvements should be designed, constructed and maintained and the quantity of industrial wastes should be controlled so that the plant does not have to be expanded in excess of its capacity of 29.5 MGD.

Action Statements

3.3A.1a. Monitor the generation of industrial wastes by new industries and enlargements of existing industries to ensure that the safe treatment capacity is not exceeded at any time.

3.3A.1b. If the average flow reaches 75% of design flow, review projected flows and existing plant capacity to determine the advisability of imposing a wastewater discharge moratorium.

3.3A.1c. Maintain a fair and equitable allocation system of Water Pollution Control Plant treatment capacity to land use categories.

Policy 3.3A.2. Ensure that wastes discharged to the wastewater collection system can be treated by existing treatment processes of the Water Pollution Control Plant.

Action Statements

3.3A.2a. Provide adequate pretreatment monitoring to ensure that discharge standards are met by the discharger community.

3.3A.2b. Maintain an active information program to inform wastewater management users of prohibited discharges, pretreatment methods, and reporting requirements.

Transportation

Goal 3.3B. Continue to operate and maintain the wastewater collection system so that all sewage and industrial wastes generated within the City are collected and conveyed under safe and sanitary conditions to the Water Pollution Control Plant.

Policy 3.3B.1. Inspect critical points in the wastewater management system annually to ensure that the proper level of maintenance is being provided and that the flow in sewers does not exceed design capacity.

Action Statements

3.3B.1a. Jet flush the wastewater collection system on a regular basis.

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- 3.3B.1b. Monitor locations where the capacity is critical in the wastewater collection system.
- 3.3B.1c. Continue the program of minimizing illegal storm connections on private property to the City wastewater collection system.
- 3.3B.1d. Continue the program of locating and correcting points of infiltration in the wastewater management system.
- 3.3B.1e. Continue to provide an adequate level of maintenance to the wastewater management system.
- 3.3B.1f. Develop and maintain accurate, up-to-date maps and records of the wastewater management system.
- 3.3B.1g. Ensure that the City's 50-year infrastructure plan provides for necessary capital improvements and replacements.

Goal 3.3C. Continue to operate and maintain the Water Pollution Control Plant, using cost effective methods, so that all sewage and industrial wastes generated within the City receive sufficient treatment to meet the effluent discharge and receiving water standards of the regulatory agencies.

Policy 3.3C.1. Monitor Water Pollution Control Plant operations and maintenance to meet regulatory standards.

Action Statement

3.3C.1a. Continue to provide the water pollution control facilities, personnel, materials and utilities so that sewage and industrial waste generated within the City can be treated to meet the regulatory standards.

Policy 3.3C.2. Coordinate operating procedures with the City energy policy to optimize an alternative energy program so that minimum use and reliance are placed on outside energy sources.

Action Statements

3.3C2a. Maximize production and use of landfill gas for power production.

3.3C2b. Maximize production and use of digester gas for power production.

3.3C2c. Implement necessary changes to allow power production with use of landfill, digester, or natural gas, or a combination of any of the three.

Policy 3.3C.3. Actively participate in the watershed management approach to solving water quality issues of the Santa Clara Basin Watershed and the South Bay

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Action Statements

3.3.C.3a. Continue to work with neighboring cities, state and federal agencies, and through the Watershed Management Initiative, to solve mutual water quality problems.

3.3.C.3b. Support the development of environmental regulations that have a sound scientific basis and allow for reasonable implementation.

Policy 3.3C.4. Produce quality recycled water and seek to maximize the use of this resource.

Action Statements

3.3C.4a. Produce recycled water, fulfilling California Code of Regulations Title 22 water quality standards, to meet the demand of recycled water customers.

3.3C.4b. Maximize the efficiency of recycled water production and distribution.

3.3C.4c. Market recycled water to potential new customers and maximize the use of recycled water within existing distribution area.

3.3C.4d. Annually review the usage of recycled water and the feasibility of expanding its use and distribution.

3.3C.4e. Monitor effects of water reuse and its relationship on discharge to San Francisco Bay.

3.3C.4f. Study feasibility of recycled water for restoration and/or enhancement of marshlands.

Funding

Goal 3.3D. Maintain a financially-stable wastewater management fund through a user-based fee system.

Policy 3.3D.1. Assess connection fees to new system users to recoup the costs of excess system capacity constructed for their eventual use.

Policy 3.3D.2. Assess user fees based on quantity and quality of wastewater generated.

Policy 3.3D.3. Establish appropriate reserves to ensure reliable rates and to provide capital improvements and infrastructure replacement needs.

Policy 3.3D.4. Annually review the wastewater rate structure.

Policy 3.3D.5. Bi-annually review the 50-year plan for capital improvement and replacement needs.

Policy 3.3D.6. Continue to make landowners responsible for maintenance of sewer laterals, with the exception that the City will make repairs to laterals between property line and sewer mains caused by broken pipes and street tree roots.

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- Policy 3.3.D.7. Properties outside the City limit that are served by the Sunnyvale wastewater collection system shall pay the full cost of wastewater management service. In addition to a higher rate for such special service, outside customers should also pay all costs for special maintenance and necessary repairs. This includes the use of outside plumbers, delivery of service at call back times, any expenses to the City of Sunnyvale from other jurisdictions connected to the provision of service (i.e. franchise fees), and costs for improvements to the system.
- Policy 3.3D.8. Explore agreements with neighboring cities where the Water Pollution Control Plant would treat interjurisdictional wastewater for a fee as long as these agreements: 1) create no capacity issues 2) do not hinder future development and 3) are economically advantageous.

(Adopted by Resolution 220-01 (12/11/01))

Lead Department: Department of Public Works